

DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, December 15, 2011

4:30 P.M.

USDA Service Center

SWCD Office

Preston, MN 55965

Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Gossman, Brian Hazel, Leonard Leutink, Pam Mensink, Travis Willford

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Donna Rasmussen, Jeanette Serfling, Anne Koliha, Robert Joachim (NRCS), Tom Kaase (County Commissioner)

Mensink called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m. A quorum is present.

I. AGENDA

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Willford to approve the agenda. Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Leutink, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Gossman to approve the November 2011 Treasurer's report, subject to audit. Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Mensink, Willford, Leutink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

Koliha provided a power point showing before and after pictures of the feedlot projects to be approved for payment.

Motioned by Willford seconded by Leutink to approve the following consent agenda items:

1. Secretary's Report – November 17, 2011 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
2. Payment of Native Buffer Grant Cost Share Contract N/B-08-04 Lisa Luetmer, Native Buffer Planting, in the amount of \$3,560.70
3. Payment of Feedlot Water Quality Management Contract FY06-05 Phil Kahoun, Feedlot Runoff Control, in the amount of \$34,390.00
4. Payment of Feedlot Water Quality Management Contract FY08-08 Dan McKenna, Feedlot Runoff Control, in the amount of \$45,500.00
5. Payment of Flood Relief Cost Share Contract FR08-02-31, Dennis Christopherson,

- Structure Repair, in the amount of \$1,860.65
6. Payment of Feedlot Water Quality Management Contract FWQMG FY11-6 Marvin Kuhn, Manure Storage, in the amount of \$70,000.00
 7. Payment of Feedlot Water Quality Management Contract FWQMG FY11-6 T/A\$ Marvin Kuhn, Engineering Assistance, in the amount of \$36,200.00
 8. Payment of State Cost Share Contract FY11-11 Merlin Ricklefs, Grassed Waterway, in The amount of \$1,593.75

Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Mensink, Leutink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

IV. REPORTS

1. Supervisor's activity report

Willford had nothing to report.

Hazel reported attending the Grazing Video Conference in Rochester on December 8th.

Mensink had nothing to report.

Leutink had nothing to report.

Gossman reported he had performed the statement opening and check review on December 1st.

2. Staff reports

A written report was included in the board packets.

3. Administrator's report

a. State Convention Report

Rasmussen reported the resolution submitted by the District did not pass. With some modifications, it could be resubmitted next year. The Mathison families were very grateful for the opportunity to attend the convention. Pete Fryer, JPB Engineer, was named the Employee of the Year.

b. BWSR Clean Water Fund Competitive Grant recommendations for funding
Grants approved for funding from the Clean Water Fund included the Nutrient Management position through the end of 2014 and two of the three feedlot projects submitted. The storm water grant was not funded. Only about half of the grant applications were funded as there was a huge demand for funds and not enough funding for all of them.

c. Cover crop project proposal with CPS and others

A cover crop project proposal is being discussed with CPS and others to retrofit an airflow spreader to air seed into standing soybeans and to apply a split application of nitrogen. The Nature Conservancy as well as "Green Lands, Blue Waters" may be able

to help with funding. In order to make this a feasible project, 10,000 acres would need to be seeded per year.

d. Frac sand mining update

Rasmussen attended a forum in Winona County regarding frac sand mining. Scientists explained about the different layers of sand that would be used in the mining. Concerns include the opening up of water cavities as well as the dust issues.

e. Eagle Bluff Sustainability Education ideas

Joe Deden, Eagle Bluff, talked to Rasmussen about possible Eagle Bluff Sustainability education ideas using a potential \$25 million dollars proposed by a patron of Eagle Bluff. Suggested ideas include water resource education such as refurbishing an old power plant as a wetland ecology area, a building for classes, and gray water recycling. Rasmussen asked the board for additional ideas.

f. Newspaper insert about being a supervisor

Rasmussen asked that board members provide information for an article for the insert regarding why they wanted to be supervisors. She will put together some questions and e-mail to them to the board.

4. NRCS

Joachim reported his staff is working on processing CSP payments. The new CSP signup deadline is January 13. EQIP applications are now being accepted, with ranking starting on January 26th. The engineering spot check went well. Casey Taylor will be performing a quality review. Lisa Buckner has been chosen as the new Mower County District Conservationist.

5. County

Kaase reported a public budget meeting had been held allowing people to voice concerns. The reduction in the homestead credit, the increased value of farmland and higher sales price of farmland has had an effect on property taxes as well as school districts increasing their levies.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Consider cancellation of Feedlot Water Quality Management Contract FY08-06 Holst Cattle Farm, Feedlot Runoff Control in the amount of \$26,381.89 which used \$11,250.00 of FY08 funds and \$15,131.89 of FY07 funds

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Gossman to approve the cancellation of Feedlot Water Quality Management Contract FY08-06 Holst Cattle Farm, Feedlot Runoff Control in the amount of \$26,381.89 which used \$11,250.00 of FY08 funds and \$15,131.89 of FY07 funds. Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Leutink, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

2. Consider cancellation of Flood Relief Cost Share Contract FR08-01-08 Norman Nordsving, Waterway Repair, in the amount of \$170.00

Motioned by Willford seconded by Gossman to approve the cancellation of Flood Relief Cost Share Contract FR08-01-08 Norman Nordvsing, Waterway Repair, in the amount of \$170.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Leutink, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

3. Consider cancellation of Flood Relief Cost Share Contract FR08-02-19 James Wangen, Structure Repair, in the amount of \$5,000.00

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Willford to approve the cancellation of Flood Relief Cost Share Contract FR08-02-19 James Wangen, Structure Repair, in the amount of \$5,000.00. Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Mensink, Leutink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

4. Consider cancellation of Flood Relief 08-03 Cost Share Contracts as listed below:

FR08-03-30	Al Bruggenthies	Pond Clean Out	\$1,000.00
FR08-03-35	John Knutson	Pond Clean Out	\$1,000.00
FR08-03-39	Robert Thompson	Pond Clean Out	\$1,000.00

Motioned by Willford seconded by Hazel to approve the cancellation of Flood Relief 08-03 Cost Share Contracts as listed below:

FR-08-03-30	Al Bruggenthies	Pond Clean Out	\$1,000.00
FR08-03-35	John Knutson	Pond Clean Out	\$1,000.00
FR08-03-39	Robert Thompson	Pond Clean Out	\$1,000.00

Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Leutink, Mensink, Willford. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

5. Consider cancellation of Flood Relief Contract FR08-03-40 Tony Buchholtz, Streambank Stabilization, in the amount of \$20,000.00 which used \$10,000.00 from FR08-03 funds, \$3,750.00 from FR08-02 funds, and \$6,250.00 from FR08-01 funds.

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Willford to approve the cancellation of Flood Relief Contract FR08-03-40 Tony Buchholtz, Streambank Stabilization, in the amount of \$20,000.00 which used \$10,000.00 from FR08-03 funds, \$3,750.00 from FR08-02 funds, and \$6,250.00 from FR08-01 funds. Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Leutink, Willford, Mensink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

6. Consider return of funds to BWSR as listed:

Flood Relief Grant FR08-01	\$17,705.36
Flood Relief Grant FR08-02	\$11,111.69
Flood Relief Grant FR08-03	\$16,249.98
Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant FY07	\$16,595.08
Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant FY08	\$12,375.00
Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant FY09	\$42,475.58
Native Buffer Grant FY08	\$153.75

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Hazel to approve the return of funds to BWSR as listed:

Flood Relief Grant FR08-01	\$17,705.36
Flood Relief Grant FR08-02	\$11,111.69
Flood Relief Grant FR08-03	\$16,249.98
Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant FY07	\$16,595.08
Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant FY08	\$12,375.00
Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant FY09	\$42,475.58
Native Buffer Grant FY08	\$153.75

Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Leutink, Willford, Mensink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

7. Consider closeout of Flood Relief Cost Share Grants as listed:

Flood Relief Grant FR08-01
Flood Relief Grant FR08-02
Flood Relief Grant FR08-03

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Willford to approve the closeout of the Flood Relief Cost Share Grants as listed:

Flood Relief Grant FR08-01
Flood Relief Grant FR08-02
Flood Relief Grant FR08-03

Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Leutink, Willford, Mensink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

8. Consider Closeout of Feedlot Water Quality Management Grants as listed:

Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant FY06
Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant FY07
Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant FY08
Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant FY09

Motioned by Hazel seconded by Gossman to approve the closeout of the Feedlot Water Quality Management Grants as listed:

Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant FY06
Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant FY07
Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant FY08
Feedlot Water Quality Management Grant FY09

Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Leutink, Willford, Mensink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

9. Consider closeout of Native Buffer Grant N/B08

Motioned by Willford seconded by Gossman to approve the closeout of Native Buffer Grant N/B08. Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Leutink, Willford, Mensink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

10. Consider approval of Conservation Apprenticeship Academy application

Motioned by Willford seconded by Hazel to approve the Conservation Apprenticeship Academy application as presented. Affirmative: Gossman, Hazel, Leutink, Willford, Mensink. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider approval of 1.5% Cost of Living Adjustment for 2012 Pay Plan

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Hazel to approve the 1.5% Cost of Living Adjustment for 2012 Pay Plan. Affirmative: Hazel, Leutink, Mensink, Willford, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

2. Consider approval of 2012 Budget

Motioned by Willford seconded by Hazel to approve the 2012 Budget with the noted changes. Affirmative: Hazel, Leutink, Mensink, Willford, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

3. Consider payment of Feedlot V Cost Share Contract F5G-04 Phil Kahoun, Feedlot Runoff Control, in the amount of \$4,242.00

Motioned by Gossman seconded by Leutink to approve payment of Feedlot V Cost Share Contract F5G-04 Phil Kahoun, Feedlot Runoff Control, in the amount of \$4,242.00. Affirmative: Hazel, Willford, Mensink, Leutink, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

4. Discuss Annual Recognition Event

After discussion, board consensus was to have the annual recognition event at the Branding Iron on a weekday. Rasmussen will contact the Mathison families to see what date would work the best for them and report back to the board.

5. Discuss operation and maintenance needs for East Willow Creek Flood Control Project structures

Every couple years inspections are required on the East Willow Creek Flood Control Project structures. Rasmussen said she wasn't sure who was responsible for the maintenance on the structures. Board members suggested that a Green Thumb or Sentence to Service group could be obtained to help with the maintenance. It is in the public interest to maintain the structures. Rasmussen will meet with Brent Kohn, Fillmore County, to determine the maintenance required, prioritize the needs, and set up

a three or five year maintenance plan. Rasmussen will report on the findings at the next meeting.

6. Consider approval of up to \$1,200.00 for maintenance and calibration of weigh scales payable from Nutrient Management Grant

Motioned by Willford seconded by Hazel to approve up to \$1,200.00 for maintenance and calibration of weigh scales payable from the Nutrient Management Grant. Affirmative: Hazel, Leutink, Mensink, Willford, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

7. Consider approval to be fiscal agent for grant for Southeast Landscape Stewardship Plan

This is Forest Service Grant to the DNR to do a Landscape Stewardship Plan for the Root River area in the amount of \$21,500.00. As fiscal agent the district would provide administration, coordinate landowner outreach and coordinate technical assistance to landowners.

Motioned by Willford seconded by Leutink to give approval to be the fiscal agent for the Southeast Landscape Stewardship Plan Grant. Affirmative: Hazel, Leutink, Mensink, Willford, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

VII. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Gossman to approve the December 2011 payables. Affirmative: Mensink, Hazel, Willford, Leutink, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

Mensink volunteered to come in for the statement opening and check review on Tuesday, January 3, 2012 at 7:30 a.m.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motioned by Leutink seconded by Willford to adjourn the meeting. Affirmative: Hazel, Leutink, Mensink, Willford, Gossman. Opposed: none. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Hazel